

30057
SEC

SERVICE DATE - FEBRUARY 26, 1999

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Finance Docket No. 32479

CADDO ANTOINE AND LITTLE MISSOURI RAILROAD COMPANY—
FEEDER LINE ACQUISITION—
ARKANSAS MIDLAND RAILROAD COMPANY LINE
BETWEEN GURDON AND BIRDS MILL, AR

No. 41230

G.S. ROOFING PRODUCTS COMPANY, INC. ET AL. V. ARKANSAS MIDLAND
RAILROAD ET AL.

Finance Docket No. 32625

DARDANELLE & RUSSELLVILLE RAILROAD COMPANY — TRACKAGE RIGHTS
COMPENSATION — ARKANSAS MIDLAND RAILROAD COMPANY

Decided: February 24, 1999

In a letter dated January 14, 1999, the counsel for the shippers in these proceedings suggested a manner for handling these proceedings and enclosed a proposed decision for entry in Finance Docket No. 32479. A decision served January 26, 1999, accepted the shippers' letter as a motion to govern further proceedings in each of these proceedings. Replies were scheduled to be due on February 17, 1999.

On February 17, 1999, the Arkansas Midland Railroad Company, Inc (AMR) filed a motion for an extension of time to file a response to the shippers' motion. AMR requests the extension to permit the parties to continue settlement negotiations. To ensure that an extension does not unduly delay the conclusion of these proceedings, AMR suggests that its reply be due seven days after the Board receives notice from any party that the informal negotiation process has reached an impasse.

On February 19, 1999, the shippers responded that AMR's new proposal is insufficient to restart settlement, that the negotiation process has failed and that further delay is not warranted.

Based on the shippers' pleading, it appears that negotiations are at an impasse. As a result, there is no basis for further delaying this proceeding. Accordingly, AMR's reply to the materials submitted by the shippers on January 14, 1999 will be due 7 days from the service date of this decision (March 5, 1999).

STB Finance Docket No. 32479, et al.

It is ordered:

1. AMR's reply to the material submitted by the shippers on January 14, 1999, is due on March 5, 1999.
2. This decision is effective on its service date.

By the Board, Vernon A. Williams, Secretary.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary